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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

December 9, 1944 No. 88

REGULATIONS ON FARM LOAN FEATURES OF GI BILL ISSUED. . . . In a press release which is being remimeographed for distribution to all field offices of the Department, the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs General Frank T. Hines yesterday announced the designation of the Department of Agriculture as the cooperating agency in administering the farm loan guaranty feature of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, more commonly known as the G. I. Bill of Rights.

Under the regulations the Extension Service has the responsibility for advising and guiding veterans who want advice and guidance on such matters as the availability of farms, kinds of credit available and where to get it, how to get additional training if the veteran lacks experience required to qualify for a loan, and other matters having to do with requirements for success on a farm. Extension also has the responsibility for using County Advisory Committees to assist the County Agents in their advisory functions.

In each county there will be a Veterans Agricultural Loan Committee comprised of four persons, three of whom will be the members of the local Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act Committee; the fourth member must be a veteran, preferably a businessman. This Loan Committee will also act as a Certifying Committee as to the general soundness of loans made to veterans. The FSA has responsibility for all administrative functions pertaining to the work of the Certifying Committee such as supplying this Committee with clerical or other assistance, information, etc.

The Farm Credit Administration has responsibility for appraisal services related to the guaranty of agricultural loans on real property as required by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

Necessary operating procedures are being worked out and will go to the field as soon as possible.

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The 8-POINT DAIRY PROGRAM FOR 1945 is underway. A kit containing 12 categories of informational aids is on its way to State Extension dairy specialists, Directors, and Editors. A supply has also gone to the National Dairy Industry Committee for relaying to dairy organizations throughout the country.

In a message transmitting the kit to the field, Director of Extension, M. L. Wilson says that the program "is a joint educational endeavor of the national Dairy Industry Committee and the Department of Agriculture and the War Food Administration, particularly the Bureau of Dairy Industry, the Cooperative Extension Service, and the Office of Information. . . The program is a sound one built around efficient methods of dairying. I commend it as being worthy of all-out support." In a similar message from P. G. Kinzer, Chairman of the Dairy Industry Committee to the dairy industry in general, he says: "I commend the program to you as being not only in the producers' interest but also in the interest of the general welfare in these perilous times and during the reconversion period."

SEVERAL PUBLICATIONS of general interest to farmers have just come off the press. One is entitled "Getting Started in Farming" (Farmers' Bulletin 1961), by Martin R. Cooper of BAE. It is written for those who know little or nothing about farming and for those with farming experience who plan to move to another location. . . Another new publication is Farmers' Bulletin 1962, "Useful Records for Family Farms" which explains why farm records should be kept and how they can be kept for credit, tax reports, and other purposes. The author is Samuel W. Mendum of BAE. . . Still another Farmers' Bulletin (No. 1426), by George M. Warren of the Bureau of Ag Engineering, is about Farm Plumbing. It is a revision of an earlier bulletin on the same subject and is written for the farmer-plumber and for those who desire to follow the work on which a regular plumber is employed, Notification copies of all these bulletins have been sent to the field in quantities specified by the various Department agencies.

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AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION. . . . December 1, the House Agriculture Committee reported a bill to authorize adjustment or cancellation of certain uncollectable farm loans; Senate passed the flood-control bill, which contains several post-war agriculture projects. December 4, the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported the crop-insurance bill. December 8, the House passed a supplemental appropriation bill which includes items for the farm-labor program, AAA conservation payments, farm-wage statistics, foreign-plant inspection, and REA planning.

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CONSUMER TIME's RADIO SHOW for December 16 will make the timely suggestion that we all start a new, different, and better budget. In addition to an entertaining program, many practical and helpful hints will be given on how to start and keep a family budget. The December issue of Consumers' Guide which contains an article on "Learn to Budget and Like It" will be offered to listeners.

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"GI EQUIPMENT FOR U. S. FARMS" is the topic for discussion on the December 16 Farm and Home Hour. Captain John H. Stambaugh of WFA's Office of Materials and Facilities and Connie B. Gay of the Radio Service will do the talking. Ruth Van Deman will give her usual six minutes of up-to-the-minute News and Information for Homemakers.

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USDA RELEASES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . . Post-war problems of cotton. (A statement by Secretary Wickard before House Sub-committee on Post-war Agriculture--3691; Specifications for Army beef changed--3697; Army asks for additional potatoes--3736; Plans made to change beef set-aside --3711; Argentine government fixes guaranteed wheat price at higher level--3718.

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL IMPORTANCE. . . . No changes in ration point values of food will be made during December--OPA-5041; Nation-wide campaign to enforce price ceilings on used passenger automobiles during December--OPA-5040; Used passenger car tires removed from rationing--OPA-5033; Prices announced for 1945 crop of flue-cured tobacco--OPA-5055.

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"STEER CLEAR OF 'LAND MINES'" is the title of a mimeographed piece prepared by the Extension Service which tells how 11,000 farmers now serving on veterans' agricultural advisory committees are ready or getting ready to guide veterans toward sound farming opportunities. An account is given by states--all 48 of them--as to what has been done along this line and includes information on availability of State-prepared publications on post-war farming opportunities within each State. Copies of this publication are being sent to field offices as requested; extra copies can be obtained upon request to the Extension Service, Washington, D. C.

HOLIDAY TRIMMINGS have been added to the Grocer-Consumer Anti-Inflation Campaign in many communities. Special mention is made of the ceiling prices of foods normally associated with the Christmas season. The appeal is "Don't buy inflation when you do your Christmas shopping." Local and chain stores are following through with ads reminding customers that "So and so's has everything for your Christmas dinner...and at or below ceiling prices." Other stores are featuring price comparisons between this year and last, showing how the line is being held; or between this war and the last, showing what price control is doing today. OPA is urging a local pick-up of these themes through all media during the next three weeks to help send the G-C Anti-Inflation Campaign successfully down the home stretch.

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SECRETARY WICKARD will address a meeting of the National Federation of Grain Co-operatives at St. Paul on December 13. He will talk about the post-war situation regarding wheat.

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